

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/801,688

Applicant(s)

KERONEN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Jared J. Fureman

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response filed on 7/2/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 4 and 6-40.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/31/2004 + 7/15/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the IDS, filed on 3/31/2004, the amendment, filed on 6/1/2004, the RCE and amendment, filed on 7/2/2004, which have been entered in the file. Claims 1, 4, and 6-40 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submissions filed on 6/1/2004 and 7/2/2004 have been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 4, and 6-40 have been allowed over the prior art of record.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest: the mapping data stored within the memory device defining, in relation to each indicium, a bounding box delineating a mapped position of the indicium on the substrate, wherein generation of touch coordinates falling within the bounding box establishes selection of the indicium, in combination with the other limitations as recited in the claims.

While the prior art of record teaches indicia on a substrate and a visible bounding box around the indicia (see Combaluzier (WO 95/35534 A1, figures 6 and 7), Mankovitz (US 5,949,492, see figures 13A, 13B, 42), Manico (US 6,072,980, see figures 1, 2, 6),

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Grufman (US 6,014,593, see figures 11-13), Patton (US 5,845,160, see figure 1), Combaluzier (US 5,973,475, see figure 6a), Inwood et al (EP 0816989 A2, see figure 5), and Redford et al (WO 98/40863 A1, see figures 3a, 4a, 4b), for example), the prior art of record does not specifically teach mapping data stored within a memory device defining, in relation to each indicium, a bounding box delineating a mapped position of the indicium on the substrate, wherein generation of touch coordinates falling within the bounding box establishes selection of the indicium. The prior art either teaches that the indicia are selected relative to standard buttons or touch sensitive areas, or fails to specify how the locations of the indicia are being mapped. Thus, without the benefit of applicant's teachings, there is no motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify or combine the prior art of record in a manner so as to create the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kisliakov (US 2004/0075642), Kobayashi (US 6,686,908), Kobayashi (US 6,738,047), and Liberman (US 6,760,014) all teach user interfaces/control templates.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared J. Fureman whose telephone number is (571)

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272-2391. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 PM M-T, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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July 20, 2004